| | is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on January 24, 2007. | Approved for use through 09/30/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number. Complete if Known | | |
|------|--|---|------------------|--|
| | 7 | | | |
| | INFORMATION DISCLOSURE | Application Number | 10/582,731 | |
| | | Filing Date | June 12, 2006 | |
| | | First Named Inventor | Ulrich Schlatter | |
| | STATEMENTERSOPPLICANT | Art Unit | | |
| | (Use as many sheets as necessary) | Examiner Name | | |
| abla | Sheet 1 of 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 06-361 | |

| U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|------------------------|--------------|--|-----------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No.1 | Number-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)} | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | - | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| - | | US- | | | |
| ···· | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | - |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| , | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|---|---------------------|--|---|----|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No.1 | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages | |
| | | Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | MM-DD-YYYY | | Or Relevant Figures Appear | T⁵ |
| | | CH 636542 A5 | 06-15-1983 | MAX STATNIK ET CO. SA | | L |
| | | DE 4437399 A1 | 04-25-1996 | MANFRED JANSEN DRING. | | |
| | | WO 00/43145 A | 07-27-2000 | SANGRAK SON | | L |
| | | EP 0722792 A | 07-24-1996 | HACHIRO NAGAMORI | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

| Examiner | Date | |
|-----------|------------|--|
| Signature | Considered | |
| | | |

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.